

Develop Coherence from Start to Finish

An effective paragraph reads smoothly and clearly. When all the details in a paragraph are tied together well, the paragraph has *coherence* and is easy for the reader to follow. One way to make your writing smooth and coherent is to use transitions.



Number your paper from 1 to 6. Use the transitions in black to help tie the paragraph below together. (Use each transition only once.) When you finish, read the paragraph. Does it read smoothly? If not, switch some transitions.

first then in addition to also besides second although finally

There are several simple ways in which kids can help the environment. _____, they can recycle things like plastic, glass, cans, newspapers, and magazines. _____, they can pick up trash on school grounds and playgrounds. _____ they can clean up their own yards. _____ it takes some work, kids can plant trees. _____ looking nice, trees help the environment by producing oxygen, by removing pollution from the air, and by providing food and shelter for birds. _____, kids can help even more by giving Planet Earth a voice. They can speak up and remind other people to take care of the environment, too.

BASIC WRITING



Read your paragraph. Read your comparison-contrast paragraph from page 599. Underline any parts that don't flow smoothly. Then use transitions to make the writing smoother. (See pages 634–635.)

